

REMARKS

The Examiner has required restriction between:

Group I: Claims 1-13; the special technique feature is a method of determining the rate of replication/destruction of an infectious agent in a host organism using an isotope-labeled precursor molecule.

Group II: Claims 14-17; the special technical feature is a method of identifying an antimicrobial or immunostimulatory effect of a drug agent using the method of Group I.

Group III: Claims 18-20; the special technical feature is a kit comprising an isotope-labeled precursor molecule and instructions for use to determine the rate of replication or destruction of the infectious organism.

Group IV: Claims 23 and 24; the special technical feature is an isolated infectious agent comprising an isotope-labeled precursor molecule or biochemical component.

Group V: Claims 26 and 27; the special technical feature is an isolated isotope-labeled biochemical component obtained from an infectious agent.

Applicant elects **Group I** without traverse. Early and favorable action is required.

CONCLUSION

In the unlikely event that the transmittal form is separated from this document and the Patent Office determines that an extension and/or other relief is required, Applicant petitions for any required relief including extensions of time and authorize the Commissioner to charge the cost of such petitions and/or other fees due in connection with the filing of this document to **Deposit Account No. 03-1952** referencing **(416272003600)**. However, the Commissioner is not authorized to charge the cost of the issue fee to the Deposit Account.

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Respectfully submitted,

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